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To: Michigan Supreme Court

What are the workers to do when big businesses are negligent with their products, especially asbestos?

Have you ever daily watched a loved one, gasp and fight, for their breath, as they have to set up every night to sleep? I HAVE!

My husband gave the best years of his life to a company in Michigan (21 years). The company he worked for had asbestos shipped in by the rail car loads, when a bag would break open, then the workers, without protection, would have to shovel it into containers. They had to breath the dust for hours at a time.

My husband sat up for ten (10) years hooked to an oxygen tank and could only move a short distance to a potty chair. He had to have constant assistance in the activities of daily living. I was only too happy to be of service, in caring for him, thru these terrible years of suffering.

My husband is now deceased. Surely, I should have a right to recover damages for our many hours of suffering and sorrow resulting from Asbestosis (which has been proven in prior court decisions of record). Damages that are being, currently, decided in a Michigan trial by jury.

The Michigan Constitution as well as the United States Constitution makes it clear that judges are not to make the law but rather interpret the law. Why is the Michigan Supreme Court even considering taking steps that would effectively change the law by denying Michigan asbestos disease victims their right to a jury trial?

It seems that big business is using the Michigan Supreme Court for their own gain, and denying the workers a right to a jury trial.

I understand some of the judges have worked for Dickinson-Wright prior to becoming judges. Isn't this a conflict of interest, shouldn't they recuse themselves from the Supreme Court, while this is being decided? Shouldn't the employees and their families be compensated for their pain and suffering due to asbestosis, (even if it isn't cancer).

I am asking the judges to pray earnestly about this before making their decision. God will give them the answer.

Sincerely
Betty Ann Jewell